

## Message Text

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44

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ABF-01 FS-01 TRSE-00 NSF-01

OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 /027 W  
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P 191320Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 213

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OES/APT- FOR GANLEY

M/FRM- FOR WHITENER

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: USEGJC TGEN OSCI

SUBJECT: JWGTRD WORKSHOP ON ULTRASONIC IMAGING - NSF OIP 76-  
06649- AIR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

REF: (A) CAIRO 1965, (B) CAIRO 1779, (C) CAIRO 1794, (D) STATE A-5  
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1. SUMMARY- RECENT TWA DECISION NOT TO ACCEPT EGYPTIAN  
POUNDS IN PAYMENT (REF A AND B) FOR AIR TRAVEL NOT ORIGINATING  
IN CAIRO HAS CAUSED AN IMMEDIATE AND SERIOUS PROBLEM WHICH  
COULD POSSIBLY RESULT IN CANCELLATION OF A WORKSHOP WITH  
POTENTIALLY ADVERSE EFFECT ON JOINT WORKING GROUP PROGRAMS  
UNLESS REMEDY CAN BE FOUND.

2. THE WORKSHOP ON DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASONIC IMAGING TECHNOLOGY  
IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD AT CAIRO UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL  
MARCH 6-11, 1976, SUPPORTED BY NSF THROUGH GRANTS TO CAIRO  
UNIVERSITY AND THE ALLIANCE FOR ENGINEERING IN MEDICINE AND  
BIOLOGY. THIS ACTIVITY WAS DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP ON TECHNOLOGY RESERACH  
AND DEVELOPMENT (JWGTRD) OF THE US-EGYPT JOINT COMMISSION (REF C).  
JWGTRD SUPPORT FOR THIS ACTIVITY WAS JUST RE AFFIRMED IN THE  
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FEBRUARY 3-5 CAIRO MEETING. FUNDS FOR THE WORKSHOP HAVE BEEN

AUTHORIZED BY NSF AND DEPT.

3. NINETEEN PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKSHOP ARE TO COME FROM VARIOUS ARAB COUNTRIES INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIA, UAE, JORDAN, KUWAIT, SUDAN, IRAQ. INVITATIONS TO ATTEND HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACCEPTED. THE GRANT TO CAIRO UNIV. PAYS FOR TRAVEL. TWA CAIRO HAS JUST INFORMED EGYPTIAN PROJECT COORDINATOR, DR. GALAL EL SAID, IT CANNOT ACCEPT POUNDS IN PAYMENT. NEITHER CAN TICKETS BE WRITTEN WITH PAN-AM SINCE NO US CARRIER SERVES POINTS OF ORIGIN TO CAIRO. EGYPT-AIR WOULD ACCEPT POUNDS AND ISSUE THE TICKETS, (BUT ONLY AT THE OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE I.E., 55 PERCENT MARKUP OVER TWA RATES.) IF US REGS PERMITTED (OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT EGYPT-AIR WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BEEN USED BY TWA UNDER A POOL ARRANGEMENT IN ANY EVENT) AS THINGS STAND IT DOES NOT APPEAR POSSIBLE FOR NON-EGYPTIAN ARAB INVITEES TO ATTEND, SERIOUSLY IMPACTING EFFECTIVENESS, IF NOT HOLDING, OF WORKSHOP. REQUEST EMB. BE ADVISED, ASAP IF ANY SOLUTION POSSIBLE. DR. EL-SAID IS AWAITING WORD FROM US BEFORE CONTACTING PARTICIPANTS. TIME IS HOWEVER, GETTING TIGHTER.

4. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT THAT TWA DECISION WILL HAVE ON COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER JWGTDR. IN ADDITION TO CURRENT CASE, THERE ARE THREE OTHER JWGTDR SEMINARS OR WORKSHOPS PLANNED FOR MARCH AND APRIL 1976 IN CAIRO IN WHICH THE SAME SITUATION COULD ARISE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** TGEN, OSCI, EAIR, EG, US, USEGJC, TWA  
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